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[COMMUNICATED.]

In company with a friend, I called into a Restaurant in Alexandria, a few days ago, and ordered a dozen fried oysters. The price charged was 75 cents! And the "trimmings" were equally exorbitant. I told the proprietor that the price for the same in New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington, was twenty-five cents. He shrugged his shoulders, but had nothing to say in reply. This led me to inquire, and to find out, that the prices charged in Alexandria, by many restaurant keepers, are far beyond those charged in the large cities. I cannot understand the policy of this—to say nothing of the justice. The proprietors of restaurants by pursuing such a course, only drive away custom, and will, ultimately, close them up. In old times the oysters in Alexandria were the best, and the prices the most moderate, in the country. It would be well for the old, permanent restaurants, to let the public know that they do not charge exorbitantly, and thus induce their old customers, and many transient persons to continue their custom.

A WASHINGTONIAN.

[COMMUNICATED.]

Some portions of Prince street, this morning, were in such a condition that the inhabitants of the neighboring houses had to close up windows and doors, and passengers escape around the nearest corners. The night carts which make this nuisance ought to be found out.

PRINCE STREET.

NEW STEAMER.—The steamer Wm. W. Frazier, Capt. Godfrey, a swift and commodious boat, has been put upon the route between this city and Washington, and will run regularly from Fowle & Co.'s wharf. See advertisement.

ALL SAINT'S DAY.—The religious festival of "All Saints' Day" was celebrated by the Catholics of this city to day. Appropriate services were held at St. Mary's Church both morning and afternoon.

A BIG CHICKEN.—A gentleman of this city has a hen which he states weighs over fourteen pounds. The eggs it lays are of an enormous size.

There are various reports afloat about the movements of army corps, the capture of a railroad train, &c., &c. The latter report is mentioned elsewhere.

in the Sangamon Circuit Court, at Springfield (Illinois), on Tuesday, in the suits of the State against Joel A. Matteson et al., on a bond given the State to recover money alleged to have been fraudulently obtained by the ex-governor, it was decided in favor of the State. A judgment of \$250,000 was rendered against the defendants.

Difficulty with Mr. Wood.

The Fortress Monroe correspondent of the New York Herald writes as follows:

Wood, late jailor of the Old Capitol prison at Washington, whom General Wadsworth appointed as commissioner, has apparently made himself obnoxious, not only to the Confederate authorities, but also to the War Department at Washington. On his passes he has been allowed to travel South, but in many instances he has exceeded his instructions: The Secretary of War expresses his disapprobation of Mr. Wood in the following telegraphic dispatch to Lieut. Colonel Wm. H. Ludlow:

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27, 1862.

To Lieutenant Colonel W. H. Ludlow:

The Secretary of War desires me to say that the acts of Mr. Wood, in reference to the exchange of prisoners, will not be recognized, and you will so inform Mr. Ould. Adopt what measures may be necessary for the return of Mr. Wood to this city,

L. THOMAS, Adjutant General.

In accordance with the above instructions Col. Ludlow has ordered Mr. Wood to return, and he will probably return on board of the Metamora, which proceeds to Aikin's Landing, this morning with a number of released Confederate prisoners.

SUICIDE OF MAJ. RUSSEL.—Maj. Wm. W. Russel, Paymaster U. S. Marine corps, committed suicide last night, between 12 and 1 o'clock, at his rooms. Coroner Woodward this morning held an inquest, and the evidence developed the fact that he had inflicted upon himself two wounds—one with a small sword, in the side; the intention evidently having been to reach the heart; it struck, however, below it. He then took a pistol and fired it the ball entering the head at the right temple, passing through the head, lodging just inside the skin on the left side. The skull is completely shattered, and the pistol was evidently held close to the head. Russel died in a few moments. He was known as a pleasant, social gentleman, but sometimes gave way to fits of despondency, and it is believed that he was in a fit of temporary insanity when he committed the rash act. For several days he has not been in a condition to attend to his duties at the Navy Yard, and on night before last he told his clerk that he would be there to-day if he was alive. He was forty-two years of age and a widower, but leaves six small children, who reside with his mother at Rockville, Md. A large circle of friends will regret his untimely end.—*Washington Star of yesterday.*

THE CITY MARKET this morning was poorly supplied, and prices were very high.

The present is one of the most violent political contests that ever took place in the State of New York.

The St. John (N. B.) Globe says that during the past fortnight a large number of mechanics and workingmen have left the city for the U. S., attracted hither by the high rate of wages, and apparently not daunted by the unsettled state of affairs.

Senator Wilson, of Massachusetts, made a speech at Cambridgeport on Tuesday evening, in the report of which we notice the following statement: "The other day I called upon the President with an earnest Douglas Democrat of Massachusetts. The news had just come to the President of these defeats of his supporters in those States, and the President seemed bowed, as I have seen him bowed down when intelligence of the defeat of our armies in the field came upon him, and he said: 'I confess that I am grieved at the results of these elections. This intelligence will go to Europe; it will be construed there as a condemnation of the war; it will go into the land of the rebellion, and will encourage the leading rebels and nerve the arms of the rebel soldiers fighting our men in the field. It is true,' said the President, 'many of these men elected profess to be war Democrats; but the resolutions of their conventions, the tone of their leading presses, and their general action, will be construed everywhere, against the cause of our country.'"

HOME OF THE LATE PRESIDENT MONROE.—A Virginia correspondent of the New York Herald says:

"The splendid mansion of the late President Monroe was passed near Aldie on the homeward journey. It occupies a prominent point on a commanding elevation, and can be distinctly seen for miles around. Four hundred acres of land are embraced within the homestead. The mansion is now occupied by John W. Fairfax. Mr. Fairfax had been in the Confederate army as a quartermaster, but some time ago was arrested on a charge of disloyalty to the Confederate Government, since when he has remained in peaceful possession of the rural Presidential mansion. From a house on the same estate, as our cavalry were passing, the children came down to the road and threw stones at them, while the ladies appeared at the door waving a secession flag. The Major sent five men to the house to take away the flag. The ladies at first grumbled a great deal and refused to give it up; but upon being informed that resistance would be useless, they complied with the request and resigned it."

From the Kanawha Valley.

[Correspondence of the Cincinnati Gazette.]

POINT PLEASANT, (VA.) OCT. 26.—The headquarters of the U. S. army of Western Virginia made a short advance yesterday. The weather was cold and very disagreeable. We expected an immediate advance up the Kanawha, but a report having been received that the enemy occupied Charleston in force, and that our advance had driven back his cavalry seven miles in that direction, it became necessary to make a brief halt here. Soon after our tents were pitched for the night, the cold mist became a very disagreeable drizzly rain, and large campfires were the only inviting spots within the encampment. About midnight we were in midwinter.

By a recent report of the Treasury of Wisconsin it appears that one item of the State expenditures last year was for gold pens with gold cases furnished the state officers.—These pens and cases cost the State eighteen dollars each.